

S-E-C-R-E-T

25 May 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANS
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: Agenda for Psychological Strategy Board

1. The draft memorandum, dated 23 May 1951, from you to the DCI (copy attached) has been circulated for comment to [redacted] and Mr. Wisner. This memorandum contained the results of our discussions on Tuesday, 22 May 1951.

2. The suggested agenda that emerged from those discussions, in my opinion, can be considerably improved. Although I do not believe we are at liberty to keep the present proposals from General Smith, I do understand that he has complete freedom to accept, reject or modify them, and therefore that we are obligated to express our views in that regard.

3. I heartily endorse the first item on the proposed agenda: "To note the proposed functions and organization of the Staff (TAB A, 1-5)." I do not conceive that this should take more than a few minutes of the Board's time, and any lengthy discussion or formal action should be avoided.

4. With regard to the second item: "To discuss the relationship of the PSB to the NSC." I believe the Board should have the benefit of a staff paper outlining the problem. My office has attempted to produce such a paper (first draft attached). If, after coordination, the substance of this paper proves correct, I would raise a question as to whether in fact the Board needs to discuss the matter.

5. With respect to the third item on the agenda: "To consider future business of the Board (TAB B)," I suggest that the Chairman select the half dozen most important and urgent items and ask the Board members to direct their staffs to expedite the preparation of papers on them for PSB consideration. The Board should not be burdened with the remainder of TAB B, the main value of which is to the Staff level. I would propose the following as the half dozen problems and would hope that they not be discussed substantively at the first meeting:

- a. The defection of Communist China from the USSR
- b. Subversion, demoralization and defection of Soviet troops in East Germany
- c. Psychological policies on public statements with regard to the Atomic Bomb
- d. [redacted]

- e. Psychological strategy with regard to the universal desire for Peace
- f. Implementation of Project [] of the [] report

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6. It is recommended that an additional item be placed on the agenda: "A brief oral presentation of psychological measures being taken with respect to Iran." A senior assistant to each member of the Board should make this presentation with regard to his own kind of activity. The State Department might well call on Mr. McGhee for the political and economic side and [] for the propaganda aspects. It is assumed that a discussion would follow which would probe what further measures, if any, the United States could take in []

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Assistant Director
Intelligence Coordination

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